

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3008
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2000
DEFENCE ENGINEERING ACADEMY
RAM SHAKAL;SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up some Defence Engineering Academy in order to attract more persons for Defence Services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; location-wise;
- (c) whether there is an acute shortage of manpower particularly technical manpower in the Army; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken to fill up the gap?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Yes, Sir. There is a shortage of officers to the extent of 28.1%.
- (d) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3008 FOR 10.8.2000

An Image Projection Campaign of the Army was launched during 1997-98 with assistance of a professional advertising agency. The campaign has made a positive impact in that the number of eligible youths opting for a career in the Army has increased. On this consideration, the campaign is continuing.

Apart from the above, the Government have approved, in principle, short term, medium and long term measures to tide over the problem of shortage in Army. This includes reduction in training period of officers by six months at Indian Military Academy (IMA) for ex-NDA, Ex-ACC and Direct Entry cadets for a period of two years from January, 2000 to December, 2001 besides constitution of a high level committee to recommend feasible options to make Short Service Commission more attractive.